Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF June 25, 2001 TO JUNE 29, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Trade Balance	April			Canada's merchandise trade surplus rose 0.8% from March, led by a 1.7% rise in merchandise exports. Export sectors showing gains during the first four months of this year, compared to the same period last year, were energy products (16.0%), Automotive Parts (3.9%), and forestry products (3.2%). Sectors experiencing declines included machinery and equipment (-8.2%) and other consumer goods (-1.6%). Merchandise imports were up 1.9% from March, led by special transactions trade (18.4%) and automotive parts (5.6%). Trade with the United States accounted for 86.2% of Canadian exports and 72.8% of Canadian imports.
Canada ($millions)	6,333	0.8%	64.0% [a]	
[a]Y.T.D. 2001 / Y.T.D 2000				
Average Weekly Earnings (S.A.)	April			In April, average weekly earnings (AWE) in Alberta remained unchanged from March at $679.54, the second highest among all provinces. Average weekly earnings in Alberta are up 2.8% from April 2000. This was the highest annual increase among provinces and a full percentage point higher than the national average gain of 1.8%.
Alberta	679.54	0.0%	2.8%	
Canada	661.05	-0.1%	1.8%	
Gross Domestic Product (1992 $millions)	April 796,719	0.0%	1.4%	Between March and April 2001, Canadian GDP remained unchanged. A surge in mining, oil and gas activity provided the single largest push to the economy in April, rising 2.4%. Increases in output also occurred in retail trade (0.8%), and logging and forestry (0.5%). These increases were counterbalanced with declines in fishing and trapping (-4.3%), educational services (-1.1%), construction output (-0.7%), and manufacturing (0.1%). Overall, the manufacturing sector experienced its fifth decline in six months, leaving manufacturing output below April 2000 levels. A decline in telecommunication equipment production is largely to blame.